(b) Proposals were received from Tamil Nadu Electricity Board in Dec., 1985 and Jan., 1987 for import of coal from Australia on the pattern of the one time import of one laks tonnes allowed in Nov., 1984; but as the requirements of thermal power stations of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board were being met from indigenous sources, the import was not considered necessary.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The supplies of coal to Thermal Power Stations of Tamil Nadu are being monitored regularly by all the concerned agencies so that difficulties, if any, in the transportation of coal could be resolved. At present, the power stations in Tamil Nadu have adequate stocks of coal as shown below:—

Name of the power Station	Coal stocks as on 28-7-1987 (in lakh tonnes)
1. Ennore	1·19
2. Tuticorin	1·45
3. Mettur	2.40

Threat of subsidence to Sanctoria, Eastern Coalfields Ltd

927. SHRI SUNIL BASU RAY:
SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI:

Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Sanctoria. Eastern Coalfields Limited's Head quarter in Bardhaman, West Bengal is under the threat of subsidence;

(b) whether such a threat exists over a wide area in the Raniganj and Jharia coalfields; and

(c) what action has been taken so far to prevent subsidence there?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Some instances of surface subsidence/formation of pot holes in isolated spots over old, abandones, inaccessible waterlogged workings have occurred in Raniganj Coadfield, as well as in Jharia Coalfield. This problem has arisen mainly due to unscientific mining operations carried on prior to nationalisation of coal mines.

(c) The steps taken to check subsidence are:—

(i) Mining operations are carried out in conformity with the rules and regulations and strictly as per conditions imposed by the Director General, Mines Safety;

(ii) Extraction below built-in areas is done only in conjunction with stowing;

(iii) Restricted working/extraction in case of workings under shallow cover;

(iv) Prohibition of construction activities over areas declared unsafe for habitation; and

(v) A Pilot project is being conducted at Ramjibanpur in Eastern Coalfields Ltd., for stabilisation of water filled voids. The project involves application of innovative methods like stowing of sand and water slurry through boreholes and testing the efficacy of these measures by geo-physical methods. This technology may find application at other places also.

Financial allocations to the Orissa State Electricity Board

928. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SAHU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the financial allocations made to the Orissa State Electricity Board with details of amount utilised during the last three years, yearwise;

(b) the Central assistance provided to the Orissa Electricity Board during the last three years, yearwise; and

(c) to what extent the power generation was affected as a result of the non-